

10/5/68

Dear George,

You send me a letter, regular mail, and it is delivered in two days. Paul Hock writes me air mail and it takes seven days. I write LA and send it special handling, and it takes 10. You are lucky, so far.

I'm sending a copy of this to Steve, so he will be aware of the contents. It seems to ~~maximize~~ me, with the possibilities you have, that I should stay in San Diego an extra day, for I can stay in and plan to stay in LA until the fifth. I cannot leave ~~before~~ after noon on the 4th without paying a heavy toll because in order to reduce the cost of travel, I'm ticketed under a special rate that precludes travel between noon on Friday and noon on Monday. What I've been able to do is get a round-trip ticket, coast to coast, good at either SF or LA, and I'm paying separately for the SF-LA fare. This is a very large saving. So, why don't I figure on the 30th in San Diego also? If it is necessary, I can stay in LA after 11/5. I do not anticipate it will be. From there I go to N.O. for a week, for private investigations.

My chief interest in this trip is to be able to speak with those with whom I work, as I can not by mail or phone. I do not have enough books on sale to justify the time, leave alone other costs. I have done much work of which they have no knowledge, and they may have knowledge that fits with mine. It usually happens, when I am ^{on} radio in California, that I turn up new witnesses. Incidentally, on the call-in shows in particular, I hope someone can be with me, in the event it is necessary to speak to a caller off the air. We can then put him on "hold" in the studio and he can be spoken to from elsewhere. Some of the more significant information has come to us this way.

So, I will want all the time possible to speak to you all. At the same time, I want to use all the time possible to reach others. As Steve can tell you, don't worry about overloading me. The only real problem is if I am too, too tired and face a tough one, where I may then loose my cool, as, alas, I have in the past.

Jim Lawrence phoned me two days ago, so I knew of your call to him. I am very fond of him and Kevin. They are great, dedicated guys. I briefed him for a press conference that has gotten no press here. I hope it did there.

It is not necessary to give credit to BOOKS. Without their asking me, I'd not have written it. But they didn't use it, only two paragraphs....On Sylvia, why not tell her that you intend constructive work, that you'd prefer fact on the case rather than distibutes - or even publish it? I will be very interested in anything you have on Thornley, whether or not from her. I doubt she has any first-hand knowledge of him at all, and I do think it possible she has been imposed upon, although I also know this could be her own emotions. We have had correspondence on this. She was not responsive, only emotional. I reminded her of the 500 pages of Commission evidence we could have had and do not had she found that \$100 when she knew I alone was working in the Archives and she knew I was without funds. Her reply was to say, quite rightly, that how she spent her money was her own business. My response was that in giving it to Thornley, she was spending it against me, because I knew what it was financing for him, a campaign against me.

On your newsletter, why do I not go over the list with you, there?

making a fire in the fireplace (we had a ~~lizard~~ ----- snake. I thought they'd gone for the year. So, I jump around.

By my staying there the extra day, we can do ETV, if they want, and if they begin by not wanting, after hearing and seeing the other stuff, they may get interested. None of you have responded to my suggestions about what I talk about. I will be prepared to give the TV stations different visual material, and I will be prepared to go into the New Orleans evidence in depth, with copies of the evidence. You need have no apprehension about the Shaw trial. This will be my own evidence. I want to be reminded, by both of you, to tell you some of my unpublished N.O. stuff, what is new and connected seemingly disconnected parts of the case.

If you ETV station wants to tape in advance, we can do, with no trouble, more than a single show. I think I can give them stuff that may be of interest to other ETV stations, once they learn I have but a single head and neither is in an alcohol jar.

Be happy to stay with you. That's what I'd hoped. I leave it to you and Steve to decide how I get there. I plan to leave my clothes in LA and carry just a little with me to San Diego.

As Steve can tell you, we can depend on no financial help from LA or Frisco. LA has never been able to produce it, and I am still owed for the cost of two trips by Frisco!

You repeat your concern about loading me too much. You cannot. If there is more interest, if the cost of the LA-San Diego trip is not great, I can go down again if there is a lull in the LA schedule. Many of the shows are off the air that would have had me. I'll enclose a copy of my letter to Steve which will give you some ideas about this.

By the way, let me know what size sweater you wear, if you wear sweaters there. You may be too large, but I've lost lots of weight, and I have a number of nice sweaters Lil has knit for me, new and almost. If you can wear any, I'll bring them.

Saw your dad briefly Wednesday, will again Monday. He's great, as always. He'd just finished reading the draft of one of my unpublished books, COUP D'ETAT, but we had no time for discussing it. I have four written or almost done and unpublished. I'd like sometime to talk to you and those you can trust to maintain strictest confidence on my unpublished medical stuff. That book is called POST MORTEM. Those few who have read it, like Vince Salandria, Hal Verb and Gary Schoener and Dr. John Nichols, who you should have on your list, say it is the hottest~~book~~ and most important yet. I've had it done 14 months and cannot afford to publish. I'll now be making significant additions.

Thanks for the check. I hope the fees are at least enough to pay for the other costs. One new addition to our small band wants me to go to N.O. on the way back and has provided that extra fare when he found out I wasn't. There is much, undone, significant work there, so, unless I am snowed under by legal technical ties- and it can cost me several thousand dollars just to set foot there. I'll return to it for a week.

Looking forward to seeing all of you again!

Sincerely,